

APR 26 1965

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## APPOINTMENTS:

## Public Eye No. 1

One of the Administration's most protracted executive talent hunts was over last week. President Johnson appointed retired Vice Adm. William F. (Red) Raborn, 59, a rare combination of blue-water sailor and top manager, to take over as chief of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Though Raborn's appointment caught most Washington handicappers flat-footed (his name had never been mentioned publicly in the spate of speculation that preceded the appointment), it epitomized a developing trend in the President's choice of top executives. Raborn, who hitherto was best known for his direction of the \$10 billion Polaris submarine missile program, is well-liked by his fellow naval officers, popular with Congress, and is a favorite of Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara; indeed, one effect of Raborn's appointment should be an end to one of the Capitol's hottest feuds—the running jurisdictional dispute between CIA and those intelligence activities (including sensitive foreign operations) directed by the Pentagon's National Security Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency.

**Last Stop:** When the search for a successor to retiring CIA chief John McCone began last winter, LBJ confidant Clark Clifford (who is also chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board) urged the appointment of someone of the stature of Gen. Maxwell Taylor, ambassador to South Vietnam. Clifford and others felt the new CIA boss should be prestigious enough to try and coordinate all U.S. intelligence efforts. But Taylor could not be spared from Vietnam, and other officials whose names came up for consideration—Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance, Navy Secretary Paul Nitze, Assistant Secretary of State William Bundy—were also regarded as key men in their present posts. Former Under Secretaries of State Robert Lovett and Robert Murphy were considered too old. Free agents like former Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon were simply not interested in taking on a post that is generally regarded as the last stop in top-echelon government service. From the ranks of the CIA itself, deputy director for operations Richard Helms was a top choice (he is much admired by the President), but in the end it

was decided that he does not yet have the reputation and prestige necessary to deal effectively with Congress.

The choice of Raborn, when it came, was much in the Johnsonian tradition of compromise. The President was as pleased with Red Raborn's record with the Polaris program as were Congress and the Pentagon, and though some newspaper reports initially characterized the choice of the Texas-born admiral as an example of government-by-crony, the fact is Raborn was brought up in Oklahoma and had met the President only casually in the past.

The man directly responsible for Raborn's appointment is John Macy, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and the President's quietly efficient talent scout. When LBJ asked Macy to find

proudly boasts of his reputation as a self-effacing "team man." Observers have noted, however, that such public depreciations of himself tend to be voiced only while an aide hovers in the background and loyally emits clucking noises of dissent.

In the past, the CIA has been criticized for simplistic political judgments. But Raborn begins with a better reputation in the Administration for political savvy than many another military figure. For one thing, his principal utterance during last year's Presidential election concerned Barry Goldwater, of whom the admiral publicly said: "He's just not smart enough to be President of the U.S." For another, the Oklahoma admiral has a hobby that could hardly fail to please his new boss: he plays

popular ballads on the electric organ, mainly by ear, and his best number is, coincidentally enough, "The Yellow Rose of Texas."



Associated Press

CIA boss Raborn: "Team man"

qualified men for the job, at least 42 names were discussed and discarded, before a list was finally submitted with Raborn on top. The President didn't bite at first, but Macy persisted, convinced that Raborn was the man for the job. He finally sent the President a copy of a book on the Polaris submarine, containing an article by Raborn. Mr. Johnson read the Raborn chapter one night several weeks ago, and that decided him.

**Carrier Man:** Raborn has been serving as vice president and program manager for California's Aerojet-General Corp., a leading manufacturer of defense equipment. He is a bluff, energetic executive who spent most of World War II as an aircraft-carrier officer in the South Pacific and who

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